



Picnic and games, Russel Park, August 2019

2019 Highlights

- Opening of our new Art Studio!
- Summer sale and exhibition at the Basement @ Bunyan – raised £231
- Christmas fair at Art Inspired – raised £247

New Art Studio, café and staff

The last six months at Art Inspired have been an exciting time, particularly with the opening of our new Art Studio and Enterprise Room at our Newnham Street premises. It offers students a dedicated area for arts and crafts, increased space and improved art facilities. The students are loving it so far!

Our old art room has now been transformed into a café area for students to enjoy at breaks and lunchtimes, with snacks and simple meals available to purchase.

We were also thrilled to welcome local artist Anne-Marie Abbate to the team, as well as our new Support Assistant Melanie.

Opening on Monday's from March!

Art Inspired started in September 2017 and after two successful years we are very pleased to announce that we will be opening on Mondays from the beginning of March.

This will be open to existing Art Inspired students, as well as new people. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sophie on **01234 480980** / sophie@youthinspired.org.uk.

It is our hope that by opening on a second day of the week we can offer more adults across Bedfordshire the opportunity to be creative and develop their art skills. Students will be able to practice drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, mosaics, textiles and felt-making, working on both group and individual projects, as well as getting involved in trips and events throughout the year.

"I enjoy coming here because it gets me out and about, and I am looking forward to starting on Mondays soon!"

Student, January 2020



Anne-Marie and Mel in our new Art Studio



Students at St Paul's Christmas Tree Festival, December 2019

Christmas at Art Inspired

This Christmas was fun-filled as we took part for the first time in the annual **St Paul's Christmas Tree Festival!** With a *12 Days of Christmas* theme, students made a range of decorations including bunting, painted clay numbers and mini canvases, which made our tree look beautiful. We took a trip down there once it was all up to check out trees decorated by other organisations across Bedfordshire and to see a school choir singing carols.

We also held our own **Christmas fair**, exhibiting and selling artwork and crafts made by our students. Everyone worked so hard to make the event a big success, raising £247 in sales!

To celebrate we ended the year with our Christmas party. There were Christmas jumpers, films, crackers, music and a yummy Christmas dinner cooked by our wonderful company Director. Thank you Vanda!

Looking forward to 2020...

As well as opening on a second day of the week, we have lots of upcoming events to look forward to this year.

Art Inspired students have started 2020 with a group sculpture project for *Holocaust Memorial day*. This work will be on show at **The Higgins** art gallery and museum from the 21st until the 31st of January.

We are also making *Art and Activism* work to be displayed at **Bromham Mill Gallery** in February.

Finally, with the profits from our Christmas fair the group are currently planning a daytrip to MK Gallery in Milton Keynes. Look out for pictures of all of these events in our next newsletter!



Art Inspired students at The Higgins, September 2019



Students at work in the new Art Studio